

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

09/361,678

Examiner

Srirama Channavajjala

Applicant(s)

OLIVER ET AL.

Art Unit

2166

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to 8/29/06.
2. ☐ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1,3,4,6-8,10-13,18,20,24,27,29,30,32,34 [re-numbered as: 1-18].
3. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.

THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

4. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
5. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
- (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
- 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
6. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☒ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO/SB/08),
Paper No./Mail Date 6/26/06
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit of Biological Material
5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
6. ☒ Interview Summary (PTO-413),
Paper No./Mail Date 9/20/06
7. ☒ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other _____

DETAILED ACTION

1. Examiner acknowledges applicant's amendment filed on 8/29/2006.
2. A request for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114, including the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e), was filed in this application after final rejection. Since this application is eligible for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114, and the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e) has been timely paid, the finality of the previous Office action has been withdrawn pursuant to 37 CFR 1.114. Applicant's submission filed on 8/29/2006 has been entered along with the Amendment.
3. Claims 1,3-4,6-13,15-18,23-24,27-32,34 have been amended [8/29/2006], it is however, noted that claim 4 status should be "**currently amended**" instead of "**previously presented**" is a typo error, claim 4 is treated as "**currently amended**" in the amendment filed on 8/29/2006.
4. Claims 2, 5,14,19,21-22,25-26,33 have been cancelled [8/29/2006]
5. Claims 1,3-4,15,18,20-21,23,26-27,30,33-34 have been amended [12/21/2005].
6. Examiner acknowledges applicants' election filed on 7/12/2004, paper no.15
7. Claim 35 is hereby withdrawn from examination.

Drawings

8. The drawings filed on 12/21/2005 are acceptable for examination purpose.

Information Disclosure Statement

9. The information disclosure statement filed on 6/26/2006 is in compliance with the provisions of 37 CFR 1.97, and has been considered and a copy was enclosed with Advisory Action mailed on 7/18/2006, further, Examiner also considered the reference in the information disclosure statement filed on 6/26/2006 "*Autonomy Technology White Paper*", a copy of PTO-1449 is enclosed with this office action.

10. The information disclosure statement (IDS) submitted on 1/21/2000, 4/21/2000 considered, a copy of IDS is hereby enclosed with previous office action[s].

Interview:

11. Applicant's Attorney Kenneth M. Kaslow, Reg.No. 32,246 is thanked for the telephone interview on 20 September 2006. During that telephone interview Kenneth M. Kaslow granted authorization to ***amend claims 1,10,18, 27,29-30,32, 34*** and ***cancel claims: 9,15-17,23,28,31***

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

12. An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Applicant's Kenneth M. Kaslow, Reg.No. 32,246 on 20 September 2006.

Pursuant to MPEP 606.01 the Title is changed to read

***--METHOD AND SYSTEM PROVIDING USER WITH PERSONALIZED
RECOMMENDATIONS BY ELECTRONIC-MAIL BASED UPON THE DETERMINED
INTERESTS OF THE USER PERTAIN TO THE THEME AND CONCEPTS OF THE
CATEGORIZED DOCUMENT —***

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In the Claims

1. (Currently amended) A computer-implemented method for creating a personalized display of electronic-mail documents for a user, comprising the steps of:

creating a database entry in a database, the entry including a user ID for each user of a client document server, wherein the client document server is coupled to an electronic-mail client;

tracking requests by the user for access to at least one document on the client document server, wherein the requests are tracked using a tracking module;

storing, in the database, information regarding each document requested by the user, the information regarding each document comprising information obtained from textual analysis of each of the requested documents;

analyzing the stored information including the information obtained from textual analysis of each document requested by the user to construct a profile of the user, wherein the profile of the user is associated with the user ID and wherein analyzing the stored information comprises:

parsing a set of stored information including information regarding at least one document viewed by the user; and

determining at least one common theme or concept of the set of stored information;

determining interests of the user based on at least the user profile, the determination being made by at least one recommendation software application; and

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providing the user with electronic mail notifications comprising recommendation information with regard to viewing additional documents on the client document server, wherein the recommendation information notifications are generated based upon at least the determined interests of the user.

2. (cancelled)

3. (previously presented) The method of claim 1, wherein the recommendation information is further based on an inference of whether the user intends to view an additional document on the client document server.

4. (previously presented) The method of claim 1, wherein the recommendation information is further based upon analysis of advertisements, products, animations, graphic displays, sound files, applets, or services identified in the additional documents on the client document server.

5. (cancelled)

6. (previously presented) The method of claim 1, wherein the stored information comprises keywords identified in the client document accessed by the user.

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7. (previously presented) The method of claim 1, wherein the stored information comprises a Web site identified in the client document accessed by the user.

8. (previously presented) The method of claim 1, wherein the stored information comprises an embedded HTML link identified in the client document accessed by the user.

9. (cancelled)

10. (Currently amended) The method of claim [[9]] 1, further comprising the step of categorizing at least one additional document on the client document server according to the at least one common ~~themes~~ theme or ~~concepts~~ concept determined from the set of stored information.

11. (previously presented) The method of claim 10, further comprising the step of recommending to the user the at least one categorized document, wherein the recommendation is generated by the at least one recommendation software application.

12. (previously presented) The method of claim 1, wherein the analyzing step further comprises the step of using a first filter to extract select content from information obtained from each user requested and textually analyzed document.

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13. (previously presented) The method of claim 12, further comprising the step of using a second filter to extract structure information from within the extracted content.

14-17. (cancelled)

18. (Currently amended) An electronic-mail document analysis method comprising the steps of:

receiving internal content information of at least one document accessed by a user;

determining at least one theme and concepts or concept of the at least one document accessed by the user;

grouping the at least one document accessed by the user into at least one folder on a client document server according to ~~themes and concepts~~ at least one theme or concept of the at least one document, wherein the client document server is coupled to an electronic-mail client;

summarizing the at least one folder by extracting at least one keyword representing the ~~themes and concepts~~ at least one theme or concept of the at least one document grouped into the folder;

deriving a user profile corresponding to the user based on the at least ~~the themes and concepts~~ one theme or concept of the folder; and

utilizing the profile to generate personalized recommendations for the user, wherein the personalized recommendations are presented on a Web page that is

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accessed using a link provided in an electronic-mail message accessed by the user

~~using email~~, the personalized recommendations corresponding to additional documents on the client document server to be viewed by the user.

19. (cancelled)

20. (previously presented) The method of claim 18, further comprising the step of modifying the user's profile in accordance with instructions provided by the user.

21-23. (cancelled)

24. (previously presented) The method of claim 18, further comprising the step of configuring the Web page to maintain the look and feel of the client's document server as accessed via the electronic-mail client.

25-26. (cancelled)

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27. (Currently amended) A method of using a computer to customize electronic-mail document information provided to a user over an electronic network, comprising the steps of:

tracking requests by a user of a client document server for at least a first requested document on the client document server, wherein the client document server is coupled to an electronic-mail client;

extracting filtered content from the at least first requested document;

analyzing the filtered content of the at least first requested document;

determining, from the analyzed filtered content, at least one theme or concept of the at least first requested document;

clustering the at least first requested document into at least one folder according to the at least one theme or concept identified in the at least first requested document;

constructing a profile of the user from the analyzed content;

determining, based on the user profile, the interests of the user;

categorizing at least a second document according to the at least one theme or concept of the at least one folder; and

determining whether to recommend to the user that the user view the at least second categorized document; and

providing the user with ~~recommended~~ recommendation information by electronic-mail based upon the determined interests of the user as the determined interests of the user pertain to the at least one theme or concept of the at least second categorized document ~~additional documents to be viewed by the user.~~

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28. (cancelled)

29. (Currently amended) The method of claim ~~[[28]]~~ 27, further comprising the steps of:

summarizing the at least one folder to extract at least one keyword representing the theme or concept of the folder; and

searching the at least second document for the at least one keyword to categorize the at least second document.

30. (Currently amended) A system for creating a personalized display of electronic-mail documents for a user, comprising:

means for tracking requests by a user of a client document server for at least one document on the client document server, wherein the client document server is coupled to an electronic-mail client;

means for extracting filtered content from the requested document;

means for analyzing the filtered content of the at least one requested document;

means for determining at least one theme or concept of at least a first requested document based on, at least, the analysis of the filtered content of the at least one requested document;

means for clustering the at least first requested document into at least one folder according to the theme or concept of the document;

means for constructing a profile of the user from the analyzed content;

means for determining, based on the user profile, the interests of the user;

means for categorizing at least a second document according to the at least one theme or concept of the at least one folder; and

means for recommending to the user that the user access the at least second categorized document based on the at least one theme or concept of the at least one folder; and

means for providing the user with recommendation ~~recommended~~ information by ~~email~~ electronic-mail based upon the determined interests of the user, as the determined interests of the user pertain to the at least one theme or concept of the at least second categorized document, wherein the recommendation ~~recommended~~ information comprises an indication of whether the user should access another document on the client document server.

31. (cancelled)

32. (Currently amended) The system ~~method~~ of claim ~~[[31]]~~ 30, further comprising the steps of:

means for summarizing the at least one folder to extract at least one keyword representing the theme or concept of the folder; and

means for searching the at least second document for the at least one keyword to categorize the at least second document.

33. (cancelled)

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34. (Currently amended) A system for providing personalized electronic-mail document information to a user, comprising:

an electronic-mail client coupled to at least one computing device, the at least one computing device comprising a memory device having embodied therein software instructions relating to the management of at least one electronic document viewed by the user via the electronic-mail client;

a processor in communication with the memory device, the processor configured to execute the software instructions to perform a method comprising:

extracting filtered content from the at least first viewed document;

analyzing the filtered content of the at least first viewed document;

determining ~~[[a]]~~ at least one theme or concept of the at least first viewed document;

clustering the at least first requested document into at least one folder according to the at least one theme or concept in the document;

constructing a profile of the user from the analyzed content;

determining the interests of the user based on the user profile;

categorizing at least a second document according to the at least one theme or concept of the at least one folder; and

recommending to the user by ~~email~~ electronic-mail that the user access the at least second categorized document, wherein the recommendation is based on the at least one theme or concept of the second categorized document.

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35. (Withdrawn)

Reasons for allowance

Claims 1,3-4,6-8,10-13,18,20,24,27,29-30,32,34 are allowed

The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for indication of allowable subject matter: The prior art of record does not disclose, make obvious, or otherwise suggest the combination of elements including

“determining at least one common theme or concept of the set of stored information” in claim 1;

“deriving a user profile corresponding to the user based on the at least one theme or concept of the folder; and utilizing the profile to generate personalized recommendations for the user, wherein the personalized recommendations are presented on a Web page that is accessed using a link provided in an electronic-mail message, the personalized recommendations corresponding to additional documents on the client document server to be viewed by the user” in claim 18;

“categorizing at least a second document according to the at least one theme or concept of the at least one folder; and

providing the user with recommendation information by electronic-mail based upon the determined interests of the user as the determined interests of the user pertain to the at least one theme and concepts of the at least second categorized document” in claim 27,30;

"categorizing at least a second document according to the at least one theme or concept of the at least one folder; and

recommending to the user by electronic-mail that the user access the at least second categorized document, wherein the recommendation is based on the at least one theme or concept of the second categorized document", in claim 34.

These features, together with the other limitations of the independent claims are novel and non-obvious over the prior art of record. The dependent claims 3-4,6,8, 10-13,20,24,29,32 being definite, enabled by the specification, and further limiting to the independent claims is also allowable.

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Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Srirama Channavajjala whose telephone number is 571-272-4108. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday from 8:00 AM to 5:30 PM Eastern Time.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Alam, Hosain, T, can be reached on (571) 272-3978. The fax phone numbers for the organization where the application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300. Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free)

SC

Patent Examiner.

September 20, 2006.


SRIRAMA CHANNAVAJJALA
PRIMARY EXAMINER